

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

ORIGINAL

From: LZ [lzflyn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 07, 2006 10:56 AM
To: Kevin Martin
Cc: deborah.taft@fcc.gov; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai
Subject: "In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007"

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007"

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning! Without closed captioning, I am unable to fully participate in life. I would be unable to watch the news, keep up with current programming that allow me to interact with others.

Imagine yourselves, not being able to hear and depending on closed captioning.

Lynzie Flynn
0023 Pinon Trail
Silverthorne, CO 80498

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: Michelle Falvo [mshell@access995.com]**Sent:** Tuesday, October 10, 2006 7:57 PM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Closed Caption

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007 Dear FCC Chairman, I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. Please reconsider immediately! **As a hearing impaired person, it is imperative that I rely on closed caption. I will not be able to watch TV without closed captioning! In an event of a disaster, I will not be able to understand what is going on!**

Michelle Falvo
561 Dutch Lane
Hermitage, PA 16148

10/16/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

From: Anne Greenwald [Annedanser33@aol.com]
Sent: Saturday, October 07, 2006 8:42 AM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

October 7, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Anne Greenwald
3081 NE Nathan drive
Bend, OR 97701-5881

Docket No 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: Susan Hernandez [sjcsue@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 08, 2006 8:32 AM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

October 8, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

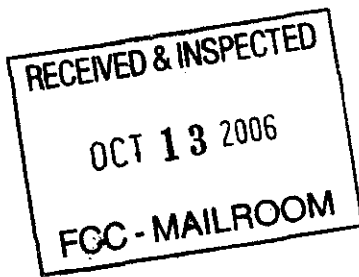
I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Susan Hernandez
121 Raleigh Ln
West Islip, NY 11795-2224

Docket No. 06-181



October 4th, 2006

FCC
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20054

Chairman Kevin Martin:

I protest the recent orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by the CGB. Closed captioning is an extremely important asset to all television viewers. Because there is a hearing-impaired student in one of my high school classes, I understand the importance of closed captioning. There is no reason that she shouldn't be allowed to watch the same TV programs as those of us who can hear. That would be discrimination. Closed captioning is also very important for people in the United States that don't speak English very well. I know international college students who enjoy watching the programs shown on TVs in their dorms and houses. However, because their English is not very good, closed captioning helps them to understand the dialogue immensely better. Please reconsider your new grants of exemptions immediately. We need our closed captioning!

Thank you for your time,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Houston".

Melissa Houston
111 ½ N. Market St.
Paxton, IL 60957

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

From: Amy Jackson [wagonjaxon@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, October 09, 2006 3:11 PM
To: Kevin Martin
Cc: Jonathan Adelstein
Subject: Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this e-mail to oppose the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! We need our closed captioning! I often rely on closed captioning and I myself do not have a hearing loss. As an audiologist, I know that many of my patients desperately need this service. Please do not listen to the money-hungry industry - consider what a negative impact this will have on millions of people (including children) world wide. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Amy Jackson, Au.D., CCC-A
Audiologist

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<http://mail.yahoo.com>

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Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

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From: BKolar@aol.com**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2006 9:36 PM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Captioning Exemptions

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I am writing to express my outrage at recent granting of exemptions from captioning to religious organizations and other petitioners by the FCC without public comment. These should be made fully public rather than simply making them available in the Public Reference Room. Even more troubling is the granting of permanent exemptions to petitioners that have requested temporary exemptions. These decisions run counter to 47 CFR Part 79.1(d) that allow for certain exemptions. Hard of hearing individuals such as myself rely on captioning to enjoy programs that we otherwise could not. I seriously doubt that captioning places an undue burden on the vast majority of these petitioners. The FCC ought to reconsider these ridiculous decisions that deny millions of Americans such as myself access programming through a lack of captioning.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Kolar

10/16/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

FILED/ACCEPTED

From: Bern3280@aol.com**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2006 11:00 PM**To:** Kevin Martin**Cc:** Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Monica Desai
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**Subject:** In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005, CGB-CC-0007 and others

OCT 19 2006

Dear Chairman Martin,

I am more than disturbed by the Commission's granting of exemptions of closed captioning.

If anyone is willing to bear the massive expense of television broadcasting then he/she should not quibble or whine about the relatively very minor cost of a captioner. Those who come to you and seek exemptions are cheapskates.

Hearing persons have no idea of the extra expenditure of concentration and energy that is needed to follow the dialogue of a program that is not captioned.

Further, any TV station that is designated to broadcast emergency messages must, out of public necessity, have a secure and reliable captioning system

Your warily,

John B. (Bern) Klein, 3200 Mac Leod Street, Napa, CA 94558 707/226-9832

10/16/2006

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: Nancy Kilroy [nancy_kilroy@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, October 06, 2006 4:16 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: I oppose closed captioning exemptions

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

Dear Cheif DeSai,
I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from
closed captioning issued by CGB.

These Orders appear to create a new regulation,
carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with
current regulations. We are outraged and believe
the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity
crying "it costs too much" can now use.

Closed captioning has benefited my family enormously,
as we have two people who suffer from hearing loss.

Nancy Kilroy
36 Oakdale Road
Canton MA 02021

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Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around
<http://mail.yahoo.com>

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Docket No. 06-181
Pam Gregory

OCT 19 2006

From: Priv438@aol.comFederal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**Sent:** Monday, October 09, 2006 6:54 AM**To:** Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Jonathan.Adelstein%20@fcc.gov;
Monica Desai**Subject:** DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 & CGB-CC-0007**Repeal the recent FCC decision!****We need closed captioning!**

The decision made by the FCC giving television programs the loophole to opt out of closed captioning must be reversed!

Closed captioning is essential for those in the deaf community who rely on television for news, information and entertainment.

If anyone wants to air a program it should be required to contain closed captions so as to include the deaf community as part of the public audience. Failure to do so is discriminatory. If affordability is an issue then sponsorship is a solution or granted funding should be provided by the government. If the door is opened for a few, more will follow.

Sponsors should also be required to caption their advertisements. Millions of people in the deaf community use the same products advertised in these ads and the sponsors should want to appeal to them also.

I ask you to repeal this FCC decision and make television media available to all.

Thank You.

Robert Krauss

10/16/2006

Docket No. 06-181
Pam Gregory

From: MrAud@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2006 5:19 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Unfair CC decision

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OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We are outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any entity crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately! My patients need their closed captioning!

=====
W. Cary Letien, Au. D.
Doctor of Audiology
266 Cabot Street
Beverly, MA 01915
978-922-1888
email: mraud@aol.com
=====

10/16/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

From: Joan Longino [jral63@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2006 9:02 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

October 12, 2006

FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Joan Longino
64 Highland Dr
Middlebury, CT 06762-3323

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: sloigman@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, October 09, 2006 9:54 AM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re DA 06-1802,CGB-CC-0005, CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

Dear Chief DeSai,

I was very upset when I found out about the approval of the exemptions from the requirement for closed captions. This requirement has been in place since 1996 and has made life better for those of us who are deaf and hard-of-hearing. This loophole created by the FCC can enable any group to be released from the obligation to provide closed captions for those who need them by stating they are short of funds.

Captions enable us to be part of the world--learning the news, weather, traffic problems,etc. and just being part of the culture through various captioned activities. Please reconsider the decision quickly. Those of us with hearing problems today and the people who are developing hearing deficits will be grateful to you.

Sincerely,
Sonia S. Loigman
631 Colebrook Road
Philadelphia,PA 19115

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

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From: CharMacKenzie@cs.com**Sent:** Sunday, October 08, 2006 12:27 AM**To:** Monica Desai**Subject:** Captioning exemptions intolerable!

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Protesting comments for Monica Desai:

I have a hearing loss and am now retired from being the ADA Coordinator for the California Department of Transportation. These are two major reasons that motivate me to express my dismay and frustration due to the FCC granting permanent exemptions to as many as 500 religious organizations from captioning their programs.

In the past when such organizations such as these have requested exemptions from the captioning rules, the requests for waivers have been put out for public comment. We public have had no chance to comment this time! Further, until now waivers have not been granted since these religious organizations did not demonstrate that it was truly an undue burden to caption their programs.

And, please tell me why permanent exemptions were granted when the request was only for temporary ones?!

It seems that suddenly the FCC is taking a completely different approach by granting exemptions without consulting consumers on the impact. How can this be?

We who have hearing loss, and there are so many thousands of us, are being poorly served by the FCC and feel that our civil rights are being ignored. Believe me, this kind of treatment alienates us and will stimulate a huge backlash.

In addition, we'd like the FCC to return to its earlier practices of notifying the public of these requests and making them available to us to see on the Daily Digest which used to be the way it was done.

Thank you for paying attention to my message. Outrage is in the air; action is around the corner. You will be hearing from many more, such as I, and they probably won't be as polite!

Sincerely yours,

Charlene MacKenzie

Hearing Loss Association of Whatcom County
Washington State

10/16/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

From: Ben McCorkel [benniema@earthlink.net]

Sent: Sunday, October 08, 2006 9:58 PM

To: Kevin Martin; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Michael Copps; Monica Desai

"In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007 Dear FCC Chairman,
I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning
issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving
out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations. We
are
outraged and believe the FCC has created a loophole that almost any
entity
crying "it costs too much" can now use. Please reconsider immediately!
We need our closed captioning!

Ben McCorkel
85134 Deleene Rd.
Yulee, FL 32097

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OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

10/16/2006

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

From: Donald Miksell [dmiksell@iowadeaf.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 10, 2006 10:32 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

October 10, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Donald Miksell
4250 NE 28th St
Des Moines, IA 50317-8822

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Michael Mateo [puremgmzone@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, October 15, 2006 2:02 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

October 15, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

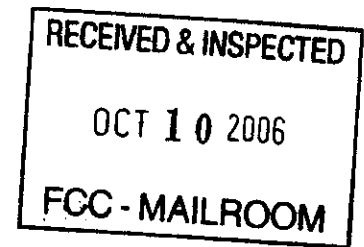
I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Michael Mateo
6125 Cowles Mtn Blvd
La Mesa, CA 91942-1809

Janessa Montoya
Sadie Ramirez
Trevor Hamreus
26900 SE 15th Street
Camas, WA 98607



Dear FCC Chairman:

Recently my fellow classmates and I have received an email regarding the close-caption exemptions that may occur in the future. When we found out about this possible exemption of closed-caption we were appalled by your decision. As III year American Sign Language students, close-caption has benefited our learning experience in many different aspects. As we discovered, close-caption has helped us understand and open our minds to different views of the deaf culture. This has helped us feel more comfortable when interacting with deaf people. When talking to family and friends who are deaf, they have told us that closed-caption has and still is beneficial to their lives. Even if it's watching a favorite TV show or following the everyday news.

Deaf people should have the same right as hearing people in this world. They are expected to face challenges everyday dealing with simple tasks such as answering a phone, buying something at a store, and ordering a meal. Many people have an idea that deaf people are mentally handicap and can't perform these simple tasks. Closed-caption is another way deaf people stay in touch with the whole community, and learn about important information. By taking out closed-captioning, you could be leading to more exemptions of important things that deaf people need to survive in this harsh world. Including, you're saying that deaf people are not important and they don't deserve the same rights as hearing people.

Sincerely,

Three handwritten signatures in cursive script. The first signature is "Sadie Ramirez", the second is "Janessa Montoya", and the third is "Trevor Hamreus".

Janessa Montoya
Sadie Ramirez
Trevor Hamreus
ASL III Students

Pam Gregory

Docket No 06-181

OCT 19 2006

From: Jules NelsonHill [julesnelsonhill@yahoo.com]Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**Sent:** Wednesday, October 04, 2006 2:03 PM**To:** Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell; Monica Desai**Cc:** Cheryl Heppner**Subject:** Closed Captioning Exemptions Are Wrong

Dear Commissioner and Commission Members,

I am writing to tell you that it is wrong to give closed captioning exemptions. It has been a little more than 10 years since I have begun to feel a measure of encouragement that captioned TV is a right, not a privilege or a luxury.

Granted I am still highly disappointed that captioning is not universal on the regular channels. I still check to see if a program is captioned or not. I should qualify this: many television shows are captioned. What's not captioned are the commercials and that is a big mistake on the part of Madison Avenue executives. That's another argument totally.

Captioned viewing can be an annoying experience for me: spotty, bizarre spelling, off-content and a race to read it before it disappears off the screen. This is acceptable...for now. What is not acceptable is no captioning whatsoever.

I grew up without captioning. In every sense of the word I felt like a second-class citizen because I didn't understand what was happening on the TV screen. So I watched very little television. In fact, I didn't see my first regular captioned programming until I was in college: The Rookies, Charlie's Angels, Dynasty. This was a unique experience but for a news junkie like me, it was pure torture because at the time the news still wasn't captioned. Not nice at all.

I assure you that I know my rights. I'm not a second-class citizen. Taking away my right to closed captioning is, in a very real sense, un-American. Agreeing to make exemptions on closed captioning is saying in essence that captioning is a luxury and a privilege. This is incorrect reasoning because, as an American access to captioned programming is a right. I'm an American, born in America and on my mother's side my family has roots here that go back at least to the time of President Polk. My grandfather was part of the cavalry that chased Pancho Villa in Mexico. My dad got his boat bombed out of under him during the Koren Conflict. My step-father is a retired Marine who was proud of my participation on The Great Peace March.

In short, I know my rights as a Deaf American. I am NOT a second-class citizen. So stop treating me as such and stop making senseless exemptions for organizations who should know better than to ask for an exemption in the first place!

Now go back and please make a reconsideration of your unwise decision to provide a loophole for organizations requesting captioning exemptions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Julie Nelson
8838 20th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98106
julesnelsonhill@yahoo.com

10/16/2006

Docket No. 06-181
Pam Gregory

From: Nancy Nottestad [njnott@gra.midco.net]
Sent: Wednesday, October 11, 2006 8:27 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: In Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

I wear a hearing aid in one ear with no hearing in the other ear but I'm not able to understand what's being said on television unless there's closed-captioning.

I protest the recent Orders granting exemptions from closed captioning issued by CGB. These Orders appear to create a new regulation, carving out a new exemption basis, not in keeping with current regulations.

Please reconsider immediately! I rely on closed-captioning to understand what's being said or the concept, including religious programming. Why should I miss out on what others are able to hear?

Nancy Nottestad
820 Lowell St
Crookston, MN 56716

10/16/2006

Kenneth L. Hill

Socket No. 66-181

From: captnorm@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, September 24, 2006 9:05 AM
To: Kevin Martin; Michael Copps; Jonathan Adelstein; Deborah Tate; Robert McDowell
Cc: Monica Desai
Subject: Closed Captioning

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Dear Chairman and Commissioners,

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

It has been ten years now since the closed captioning rules were put in place. More than enough time for programmers to find funding and set up to caption their programs. The decision to grant a large number of captioning exemptions sets a very bad precedent. A) It is counter to the regulations at 47 CFR Part 79.1(d) that allow for certain exemptions; and (b) it is de facto rulemaking without notice. They are creating new regulations without a process. This FCC interpretation could have far reaching effects that go well beyond religious programming. The entities who asked for waivers are given consideration while those of use who will be affected are not. These decisions to offer exemptions should not stand. They should be reversed immediately.

Without Closed Captioning, I'm unable to watch television or movies and understand what is being said. I will be unable to be enriched by the many programming choices offered today because government is beholden to corporations requesting exemption and not the individuals the government should be watching out for in the first place!

Jeff Petterson

Docket No. 06-181

Pam Gregory

From: Jay Keithley
Sent: Monday, October 16, 2006 8:07 AM
To: Pam Gregory
Subject: FW: Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007
 Another for the file.

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
 Office of the Secretary

*** Non-Public: For Internal Use Only ***

-----Original Message-----

From: Mary Helen Pearl [mailto:merp41@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, October 13, 2006 10:40 PM
To: Jay Keithley
Subject: Re DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

October 13, 2006
 Kevin J. Martin, Chairman

Michael J. Copps, Commissioner

Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner

Deborah Taylor Tate, Commissioner

Robert M. McDowell, Commissioner

Dear Commissioners,

This is to let you know that I fully support the action alerts from TDI and other national organizations to oppose the decisions taken by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on September 12, 2006. We respectfully ask that the FCC reverse its September 12, 2006 decisions regarding television captioning waivers.

I cannot overemphasize that churches make up a very important part of every community. It is within their mission to support the basic needs of all people within their reach. When Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast one year ago, they were among the first to offer help with shelter, food, and other assistance to the survivors. Captioning TV programs does meet a legitimate basic need for access to information just like building a ramp to the church door. By providing captions to meet the needs of a significant population group, the churches will find themselves with an expanded TV viewership, which will lead to an increase in their

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membership and other support from the community. When children and adults are able to read captions on spiritual programs, they are influenced to live up to high moral standards and contribute their part to the community. Hearing loss is the number one growing disability among senior citizens – they will find themselves depending on captioning to listen to the message.

We want to participate fully in all programs and services at our local church because it serves as a vital resource that empowers us to be fully integrated in the community. If one of us who are deaf or hard of hearing sees the services with captions on TV, we can interact with other church members, neighbors, fellow employees, family members, and service professionals in the local community. We stand to benefit from the "local connection" that national religious programs are unable to provide. Church programs with captions are very important spiritual aid for us in case we are not able to go to church, especially in times of long illness.

We know that all video programmers have had ten years to prepare for the captioning regulations now in place, and temporary waivers when appropriate. When you give full permanent exemptions to the two programmers, it reverses all the access we have worked on for years. We ask that programmers consider other possible revenue options such as sponsorships, long-term captioning service agreements, and aftermarket sales (videotapes or DVDs) to cover and minimize the cost of captioning. Or, they can reduce other expenses in their production budgets to enable the provision of captioning.

Closed captioning gives me a) access to news that is indispensable to the community, b) entertainment that is an integral part of our lives, and c) education that paves the way for us to become self-sufficient in society. The information that everyone in the community receives is also important to me and I can only get it if it is captioned.

Let us not go backwards after working steadily to get full captioning that we are enjoying now.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Mary Helen Pearl

175 Cleaveland Rd.; #119

10/16/2006

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

merp41@comcast.net

cc:

Monica Desai, Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Jay Keithley, Deputy Chief (Policy), Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau

Tom Chandler, Chief, Disability Rights Office

Cheryl King, Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Office

Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Diane Feinstein

Rep. Ellen Tauscher

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

*Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary*

Pam Gregory

Docket No. 06-181

From: Kelle Peeplez [orangepez@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2006 1:02 PM
To: Monica Desai
Subject: Re: DA 06-1802, CGB-CC-0005 and CGB-CC-0007

FILED/ACCEPTED

OCT 19 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

October 5, 2006
FCC Chief, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Monica Desai

Dear Monica Desai,

I protest the FCC approval of almost 300 requests for new programs to be shown without closed captions.

The FCC weakened the closed captioning rules, and appears to have created new standards and new rules for permitting programs to be televised without closed captions. I believe the FCC violated the closed captioning rules.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing want access to televised information and entertainment, just like everyone else.

Closed captioning is an essential part of any televised program. Captioning is not too difficult or too expensive.

I cannot watch television programs that are not captioned.

Please reconsider these FCC decisions and support closed captioning.

Sincerely,

Kelle Peeplez
31144 Beachwalk Dr
Apt 2102
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